Reflection
May 19, 2016

We came up with our idea while talking about what to do, it just kinda came to mind. It also helped that we are HUGE Miyazaki fans. (Yes, we own all the movies) We are both artists and we admire the time and effort he puts into drawing each cell. The subject was important because we wanted to learn more about him and more about the awesome movies he makes.

Our audience is children and teens because those are the types of people who his movies are focused on. Not all of them are for children however, so a possible teen/adult audience.

One of the challenges of this project was time and getting the necessary information within 3 minutes. We found out so many interesting facts that we wanted to include them all. We overcome this problem by going through our dialogue and seeing what was the most important to say about him and his films. We went through numerous edits.

Going over and watching it multiple times while listening to everything helped to point out flaws and see what needed to be fixed. The critiques also helped a lot. The peer evaluations all said the same thing. This really let us know that those things were a serious issue. For instance, they said I talked too fast. The most helpful reflection was from Mrs. Kristensen. She talked to us about pacing, choosing music that matched our film, and volume. Most of my classmates just told us what they liked about the film.

The critique from our National Art Honor Society was frustrating because they wanted us to add more. They thought we should add in our own animations but we were running out of time. They also just stated everything they liked.

The evaluation from Castleton University went very well and was the most helpful. It differed from the peer evaluations because they gave us ideas on what to do to our video, what to get rid of, and what to change. The 6 film students spent a long time with us and really helped us trim our film down. "Be merciless" was a common comment.

We learned a lot about how documentaries work and how hard it really is to get everything under a time limit and to line up with each other properly. We learned how other people work and how they see their styles and ideas coming to life. It was scary to have our films shown on the big screen because we saw every problem and we did not like hearing our voice. It was also exciting and when they applauded, we felt awesome.

We feel like our movie is successful in it’s own way. It tells the story and facts about Miyazaki and keeps you entertained with clips from his movie. We hope you get the essence of why he makes films and we hope you can tell how much we admire him.
We view ourselves as improved filmmakers. Even though this is our second film we feel like we improved so much. This is our first documentary. We have grown because we have used many more applications and effects in this video. We have never used narration before, we have never added video from a movie or different source before. One of us will continue creating animations while the other plans to never, EVER make a film.